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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05610 161527Z

51
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CPR-02 VO-03 SCA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SY-04 DRC-01

/126 W
---------- 082688
R 161437Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7930
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD VIA POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CVIS UR US PINT SREF CASC CGEN
SUBJECT: REPRESENTATION TO MFA ON ACCESS TO EMBASSY

REF: MOSCOW 5425, 5407, 4730, 4628, 3539
GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. CONSOFFS CALLED ON MFA PROTOCOL DIVISION SECOND SECRETARY PASHKIN APRIL 15 TO DISCUSS PROBLEM OF INCREASED SOVIET MILITIA INTERFERENCE WITH ACCESS TO EMBASSY ON PART SOVIET CITIZENS SEEKING CONSULAR ASSISTANCE. CONSOFFS POINTED OUT THAT THIS REPRESENTATION IF FOLLOW-UP TO THAT MADE BY AMBASSADOR TO MFA/USA DIVISION DIRECTOR KORNIYENKO APRIL 1 (MOSCOW 7430), AND THEY GAVE PASHKIN COPY OF AIDE-MEMOIRE PRESENTED BY AMBASSADOR AT THAT TIME (COPY POUCHED EUR/SOV APRIL 1).

2. CONSOFFS OUTLINED TO PASHKIN SERIES OF INCIDENTS DURING PAST SEVERAL WEEKS (REFTELS) IN WHICH SOVIET MILITIAMEN POSTED OUTSIDE EMBASSY INTERCEPTED SOVIET CITIZENS SEEKING CONSULAR ASSISTANCE. THEY POINTED OUT THAT IN MOST OF THESE INCIDENTS, PERSONS SEEKING ENTER EMBASSY HAD APPLIED TO SOVIET OVIR AUTHORITIES
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05610 161527Z

FOR PERMISSION JOIN CLOSE FAMILY MEMBERS IN US AND HAD WRITTEN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

INVITATION IN HAND TO VISIT EMBASSY TO DISCUSS THEIR CASES. CONSOFFS ALSO NOTED THAT THREE OF PERSONS SO INTERCEPTED (MODEL, VINOGRAD AND LEVENBERG) WERE INCLUDED ON THE OFFICIAL USG REPRESENTATION LIST WHICH AMBASSADOR PRESENTED TO KORNIYENKO APRIL 1.

3. CONSOFFS EMPHASIZED THAT WE CONSIDER SUCH INTERFERENCE WITH ACCESS TO EMBASSY IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 4 OF US-SOVIET CONSULAR CONVENTION, WHICH ENSURES NORMAL WORKING CONDITIONS FOR SENDING STATE CONSULAR ESTABLISHMENTS. THEY POINTED OUT THAT IN INSTANCE OF ACCESS DENIAL WHICH OCCURRED APRIL 11 (MOSCOW 5407) , CONSOFFS WERE OBLIGED TO INTERVIEW ON STREET EXIT VISA APPLICANT (WHO WAS SEEKING LETTER FROM EMBASSY FOR PRESENTATION TO LOCAL OVIR OFFICE) AFTER APPLICANT HAD BEEN INTERROGATED BY MILITIAMEN AND WARNED AGAINST ANY CONTACT WITH EMBASSY PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF SOVIET EXIT PASSPORT.

4. IT WAS ALSO POINTED OUT TO PASKHIN THAT VIRTUALLY EVERY DENIAL OF ACCESS HAS BEEN WITNESSED BY USG PERSONNEL, BUSINESSMEN, CORRESPONDENTS OR OTHER VISITORS TO EMBASSY. MILITIA'S PHYSICAL BLOCKING OF EMBASSY ENTRYWAYS, APPREHENSION OF SOVIET CITIZENS SEEKING ENTRY, AND THEIR INTERROGATION IN LARGE MILITIA BOOTH RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED JUST AROUND CORNER FROM EMBASSY HAS CREATED UNFAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON THESE VISITORS. CONSOFFS NOTED IN CLOSING THAT ATMOSPHERE CREATED BY THIS BEHAVIOR ON PART OF MILITIAMEN IS INCONSISTENT WITH EFFORTS BEING MADE BY BOTH SIDES TO IMPROVE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND THEY ASKED THAT APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS BE GIVEN TO RECTIFY SITUATION.

5. PASHKIN TOOK NOTES OF CONSOFFS' REPRESENTATION AND STATED HE WOULD PROMPTLY BRING MATTER TO ATTENTION OF PROTOCOL DIVISION DIRECTOR AMBASSADOR NIKIFOROV.
STOESSEL

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Draft Date: 16 APR 1974
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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